



Curdworth Primary School  
Farthing Lane  
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enquiry@curdworth.warwickshire.sch.uk  
[www.curdworth.warwickshire.sch.uk](http://www.curdworth.warwickshire.sch.uk)

Head of School – Mrs Jas Kang  
Executive Headteacher – Mrs Helen Hastilow

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2022

### Free School Meals

Dear Parents / Carers,

All pupils in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 in primary schools are entitled to 'universal' free school meals. This is **not** the same as 'Free School Meals' (FSM). Where a pupil is eligible for free school meals, the school receives additional funding called Pupil Premium. Pupil Premium funding was first introduced by the government in 2011. It represents additional funding that the government provides to schools to support the education for eligible students, and it is completely up to the school to determine how the money is spent.

If your child is in or starting Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, they will automatically receive the universal free school meals, which you don't have to apply for. However, if you get any of the below benefits, we encourage you to apply online to check your eligibility. The new online checking service will instantly advise you if your child is eligible to receive free school meals.

Please note: Your child's 'universal' free school meals will stop at the end of Year 2 unless you receive the below qualifying benefits and you have already registered your child with us.

If you are entitled to free school meals now, even if at some point your circumstances change and you are no longer eligible for the actual free school meal, your child will receive the Pupil Premium funding for a further six years. However, you must apply to see if you are eligible, as you will not automatically get the additional support.

#### **For your child to qualify for free school meals you must get one of the following benefits:**

- Universal Credit and your household income after tax is less than £7,400 per year (not including any benefits you get)
- Child Tax Credit, as long as you are not getting Working Tax Credit and have an annual income of less than £16,190
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- The guarantee part of Pension Credit
- Asylum seeker support

Please note:

- Children aged between 16 and 18 who are getting Universal Credit in their own name can also get free school meals.



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- Families who were already getting free school meals on 31 March 2019 can carry on getting them until 31 December 2023, even if the household's income changes.
- Only pupils who are registered for free school meals will receive shopping vouchers whilst school is closed due to COVID 19.

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### **Q) Who can register for Pupil Premium?**

A) If you receive one of the above benefits, you can register your eligibility with the council so that the school can receive free school meals and also benefit from additional funding, called pupil premium. The pupil premium currently gives extra funding of £1320 per eligible pupil to the school your child attends.

#### **Q) I have just lost my job/income and have claimed Universal Credit - will I be able to claim Free School Meals?**

A) Most councils work out whether you can get free school meals based on your earnings in your previous assessment period for Universal Credit. This can mean that councils are not able to process your claim for free school meals until after you have received your first Universal Credit payment.

#### **Q) How do I apply for Free School Meals?**

A) Please go to <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals>. It only takes a few moments to complete a simple online form which will tell you whether your child/children is/are eligible. Please contact Mrs Teasdale on 01675 470379 or via email on [enquiry@curdworth.warwickshire.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@curdworth.warwickshire.sch.uk) if you need help with your application.

#### **Q) What happens to the extra funding that schools receive for children who are entitled to Free School Meals (FSM)?**

A) There are various benefits to the child and the school with the extra finding such as:  
Support towards teaching and learning (CPD, recruitment and retention)  
Targeted academic support (tutoring, one-one support and structured interventions)  
Wider strategies such as attendance, behaviour and wellbeing

We hope you have found this information useful, please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any support or further information.

Best wishes,

Jas Kang  
Head of School